

(1)
The Strange and Dreadful
RELATION

OF A

Horrible Tempest

OF

Thunder, Lightning, and of Strange Apparitions in the Air, accompanied with Whirlwinds, Gusts of Hail and Rain.

Which happened on the Tenth of this Instant June, at a Place near Wetherby, in the County of York.

With the Account, how the Top of a Strong Oak, containing one Load of Wood, was taken off by a Sheet of Fire, wrapped in a Whirlwind, and carryed through the Air, half a Mile distant from the Place. As also, How it broke down several Trees in Esq; Belbye's Wood and Orchard, shattered his House, and did much Harm. The Truth of which, is Attested by Persons, whose Names are herein Specified.

As likewise, Another Strange RELATION of a monstrous Child, with Two Heads, Four Arms, Four Legs, and all Things thereunto belonging: Born at a Village, called Ill-Brewers, in the County of Somerset, on the Nineteenth of May last. With several other Circumstances, and Curious Observations to the Wonder of all that have beheld it.

Attested and Confirmed by several Persons of known Truth & Integrity.

Great and Boundless is the Power of the All-Wise and Omnipotent God; who, by his Eternal Word, from Chaos Rude and Wild, first raised this Glorious Fabric of the Universal World; and so with equal Poise, disposed the Warring Elements into their Proper Places of Abode: Yet when he pleases, can let loose their Reins, and Rousing Fires, permit to rend the Watery Fleeces of the Skyes, Black Clouds, involving Rapid Whirlwinds, and Destructive

A

Flame.

Flame, command as *Heralds* out, for to make known the Terror of his Might. Winged Lightning, and Red Thunder-bolts declare his Power through the wide Arch of Heavens Glittering Canopy; whilst loud Storms and Tempests, mix with Prodigies and Portents, (those Harbengers, and Fore-running Omens of some ill Event:) Two of which lately happening in this *Brittish-Isle*, we here shall give the Reader a Relation of, variously, both in Earth and Air, those Specious Elements.

But first, upon the *Tenth* of this Instant *June*, several People being abroad for Recreations sake, or as Occasions otherwise required, at a Place called *Wetherby*, in the County of *York* between *Six* and *Seven* in the Evening, it being very Fair, and all the Skies serene; when, on a suddain, (to the Admiration of the Observers) Black Clouds drove furiously on before, *South-Western* Winds obscured the *Sun's* bright Face, and spread themselves over Heavens Crystal-Arch: So that, such Darkness strait involved the Earth, as many times is usual in some Great *Eclipse*; the which made many stand amazed at the suddain Alteration. When lo, the opening Clouds from their black Bosome, sent out Prodigious Flashes of *Aetherial Fire*, and Thunders loud, with Storms of Hail or Rain, exceeding Great; the which no sooner ended, but the Black Clouds drew off, and a Cloud more Bright appeared, yet Dusky; and from either side of it, strange Flashes, without Thunder, came. And, as the People (who were then Spectatours) do affirm, Appearances of several Shapes, were seen for to wave in and out; whilst it still Thundred from the *North-West*, in equal Distances, and rending Motions, seldom seen. This had not continued past half an Hour, but from the Breaking Cloud, (to the great Confirmation of all present) a swift Gust of Fire descended; or more properly, a *Whirlwind* of Flame, much like a Sheet, or little Cloud, which with head-long force, fell a considerable way. Then turning a-flant, it took off the Top of a Large Oak, containing almost (if not altogether) one Load of Wood; and, like a Hurricane, drove it before it through the Air, with rapid Fury, till it came to Esquire *Belbye's* Wood, at a great Distance whence it grew, and near to *Wetherby*; where entering, it forced off Branches, Arms, and Tops of Trees, so large, as struck all with Admiration, who have since beheld them. And passing then into his Orchard, the Tempest (or more aptly, Hurricane) broke several young Trees, growing about his House, shattered the Corner of his Hall, blew off many Tiles, and broke

broke the Windows. So that, the like Gust, or Whirl-wind of Tempestuous Fire, has never been heard of in these Parts before; so Great, so Strange, and so Amazing.

The Top of the Tree first blown off, lies now at the Place where it fell, for all Spectatours to behold; and not in vain: For Hundreds, in these Parts, have vouchsafed to come, and view the Wonder, and those none of the meanest Rank. And it is adjudged by some, to be now almost a Mile from the Trunk or Body, from whence it was first taken; that being also shattered, singed, and a strong Scent of Brim-Stone still remaining on it.

If any one question the Truth of *This*, they may repair for farther Satisfaction, to Mr. *Zacariah Thorp*, at Mr. *Wuttherels*, in *Charter-House-Lane, London*; and there receive an Ample Testimony of the Truth of what has happened; or to *Cornelius Thorp*, living in the Town before-mentioned, where this Hap befell. Attested likewise there, by many Hundreds.

Veritas Laudatur & Alget.

And now, to divertise my Reader, and satisfie his or her farther Curiosity, I shall give them an Account of a Portent less dreadful, though perhaps, more wonderful and amazing, as seldomer happening; for I must declare (to take off the suspicion of that Ill any may conceive, or vainly prognosticate unto themselves) that these kind of Hurricans or tempests of Collateral Winds, are very common in the *Western* parts of the World; as *Virginia, Guin-
nia, Barbadoes*, and other places; though seldom in the *North*.

But to our ensuing Discourse, or second Wonder, so great and Monstrous a Birth, not happening in the Memory of Man, viz. A Child lately Born at a Certain Village called *Ill-Brewers*, in the County of *Somerset*; so prodigiously strange (beyond the ordinary Course of Natures handy-work) that all present (at its first appearance) started back, and stood amazed with admiration, to behold such an unexpected sight: For on the 19th. of May last past, from the Mothers Womb, big with the Monstrous Birth, by Art and Natures Kind assistance, Sprung a Female Child, or two Children joyned together by the bodies, side to side. Heaven and Providence so ordering, no doubt, In the dark Cells of Generation; for from the united body, grew two necks; and on each, a Head proportionable, adorn'd with all things suitable; as Noses, Eyes, Ears, Mouths and Tongues, as if it had been two divided births. From out the Shoulders, on each side, grow a Brace of Arms, with Fingers and Thumbs proportionable; all plyable,

and fit for Use; so dexterously fixed or grafted on, as any can Imagine or conceive: The body seeming but as one, two Nipples where the breasts should rise, and but one row of Ribs on either side; one falling Crease, or vally between, the belly likewise seems but one, and to one navel sutes; yet a Seem appears, as if mutually joyned; the Privities and Orifice, or Fundaments, for Vent or Evacuation, are distinct; and from the Huckles grow, on either side the Neck, two Legs, with Joynts, and all things answering in proportion, just and equal lengths; with Feet and Toes well fixed: So curious was Dame Nature, to let nothing fail, that might conduce to make her Wonder great, and most admirable. The father of this double Infant, Is named *Herring*, A Laborious man and of mean rank; but of an honest Demean, and good repute. His Wife before this, having born him several Children, to the number of five. When this Child was born, (according to the report of the Midwife, and several other good Women, assisting at the Labour) the two Innermost Armes were twined about the different necks, the two heads seldom apply, their Mouthes to the Brests; but suck divided, and when one sucks, the other often weeps.

A Day, or Two after the Delivery, the Parents were advised by several, to have the Child (or Children so united) to be baptized; the which, (according to the ceremony of the Church) was performed, with Godfather and Godmothers; naming them *Priscilla*, and *Aquilla*. After which, being tenderly looked to, they gathered strength, and now look lively, brisk, and well, being likely to continue: And it is designed, if they live, that they shall be brought to *London*, there to be exposed to View, for the farther satisfaction of the curious, or the unbelieving; whose faith can reach no farther, than their eyes can see. The house where this Monstrous Birth of Nature was produced, Is next adjoyning to *Justice Waldens*, Esq; in the Town and County aforesaid.

This is attested by many Persons of worth and Good repute. But especially, by Mr. *Thomas Warren*, an Apothecary, living in *Lawrence Lane*, *London*, who received it from the Parents.

Thus they all behold, and with wonder seriously consider the marvellous Deeds of the All-wise Creator; who disposes of his works, as best seems fit unto him; whose will, is his Law; and power Immense, Omnipotent, and boundless, without end or limitation. So that, all the sons of men are, before him, but as the clay in the hands of the Potter, who can mould and form us, as it pleases Him, without our leave, or least consent.

